

REMARKS

The Applicants note with appreciation the acknowledgment of the claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 and the notice of references cited. Claims 1-18 are pending in the application. Claims 1-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,710,706 (Markle, et al.) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,576,849 (Bliss, et al.). The Applicants respond as follows.

The Applicants have supplied a copy of the translation of the original Japan Application No. 2000-51344, filed February 28, 2000. The required statement of accuracy of the translation is also attached. The documents supplied predate the Bliss patent, filed December 1, 2000, therefore, the Bliss patent is not a valid reference against the current application. The Examiner admits that Markl does not show log information with reference to claim 1. The Examiner also rejected specific elements of 7 and 16 (E-mail); 8, 9, and 17 (analyzing, storage and computer means); and claim 18 (log creation and log analysis) using the Bliss reference.

Without the Bliss reference, the Applicants state that claim 1 of the current disclosure and all dependent claims thereof represent patentable subject matter and that the rejection should be removed.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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